

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed December 28, 2000 Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application, as amended, and consideration of the following remarks.

Amendments

Amendments to the Claims

Applicant has amended the claims to more particularly point out that the domain transform coefficients for a block of data in Applicant's invention are updated based on predicted and partial decodings within the block. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

Objections

Objections to the Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 3, 8 and 13 as informal because they recited a "transform" instead of an "inverse transform." Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the objection to claims 3, 8 and 13 as amended in this response.

Rejections

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-4 and 6-9

Claims 1-4 and 6-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jeon et al. (U.S. Patent 5,937,101). Applicant respectfully submits that Jeon cannot anticipate Applicant's invention because Jeon does not disclose each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 1-4 and 6-9.

Jeon discloses a system that recovers quantized coefficients in a frequency domain that represent blocks of an image. Because quantization is lossy, Jeon updates each quantized coefficient by adding an adjustment factor, i.e. an estimated of the amount of loss. The updated coefficients are then applied to the inverse of the transform to recover the image. Jeon teaches that the appropriate adjustment factor is selected based on comparing the coefficients of the current block with coefficients of the surrounding

blocks. Thus, Jeon teaches estimating transform coefficients based on a comparison between blocks of an image signal.

In contrast, Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 1-4 and 6-9, decodes the current block into partial and predicted decodings using known and estimated values of the transform coefficients, and then updates the estimated values of the transform coefficients based on the partial and predicted decodings of the current block. Because Jeon does not teach decoding the current block into partial and predicted decodings and using the partial and predicted decodings within a block to update the estimated transform coefficient, Jeon cannot anticipate Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 1-4 and 6-9. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Jeon.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 5 and 10

Claims 5 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Jeon. Claims 5 and 10 depend from independent claims 1 and 6, respectively. Because Jeon does not teach each and every limitation, the § 103 rejection can only be proper if the Official Notice relied on by the Examiner discloses the claimed elements that are missing in Jeon. However, the Examiner only asserts that the Official Notice covers displaying the decoded pixel decoder. Therefore, the combination of Jeon and Official Notice does not teach each and every limitation of Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 5 and 10 and accordingly, Applicant respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(b) over the combination of Jeon and Official Notice.

Claims 11-15

Claims 11-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Jeon in view of Florencio et al. (U.S. Patent 6,373,894 B1). Florencio qualifies as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on its issue date of April 16, 2002. Applicant does not admit that Florencio is prior art and reserves the right to swear behind the reference at a later date. Nonetheless, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Jeon and Florencio does not render Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 11-15 obvious.

Independent claim 11 recites the same elements as independent claims 1 and 6. Therefore, as discussed above for claims 1 and 6, Jeon does not disclose each and every limitation of claim 11. Florencio discloses a system that recovers quantized transform coefficients by selecting one of several pre-defined classes that fits the received signal. The quantized transform coefficients are updated with estimated adjustment factors corresponding to the selected class. Thus, Florencio teaches estimating transform coefficients based on pre-determined classes of signals. Florencio does not teach decoding the current block into partial and predicted decodings and using the partial and predicted decodings within a block to update the estimated transform coefficient as claimed by Applicant in claims 11-15. Because neither Florencio nor Jeon teach these elements claimed by Application, the combination cannot be properly interpreted as doing so. Furthermore, the Official Notice relied on by the Examiner to reject claim 15 is the same as the Official Notice relied on to reject claims 5 and 16 and thus also does not disclose the missing elements. Therefore, the combination cannot render obvious Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 11-15 and Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination of Jeon and Florencio.

SUMMARY

Claims 1-15 are currently pending. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims.

If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Sue Holloway at (408) 720-3476.

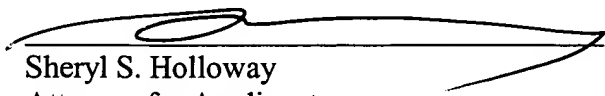
Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR
& ZAFMAN LLP

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